

# BOWS and ARROWS

AN ARCHERY BIBLIOGRAPHY



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WARD BOBBS AND MARCIA MUTH MILLER



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*An Archery Bibliography*

By

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## OF BOWS AND ARROWS AND BOOKS

One of the earliest and most important inventions of fledgling mankind was that of the bow. The bow and arrow changed man's history because it increased his ability to survive in what was often an hostile environment. And, because man himself has certain inherent tendencies toward aggression, it also increased his capacity to dominate others.

Whether used for good or evil, the bow and arrow became an integral part of expanding civilization until it was replaced by gunpowder. From the 15th century on, bows and arrows were gradually phased out as a principal source of weaponry and became instead a major sport. The popularity of archery was considerably enhanced by the fact that from the 13th century through the 19th century most of the ruling monarchs, the aristocracy and landed gentry in the various countries promoted it as a sport.

Today, archery is practiced both as a sport in itself and for hunting purposes. It is taught as a regular part of school physical education programs. There are many archery clubs and organizations. There are all kinds and varieties of tournaments. Archery was one of the 1972 Olympic events. First place winners in the men's and women's divisions, incidentally, were Americans.

From primitive man's necessity to modern man's pleasure has been a long evolutionary process. Perhaps today the growing popularity of archery can be attributed to the desire to get away (if only briefly) from the intensely technical and mechanical society in which we live.

Archery is a skill. It can be taught. It must be practiced and it requires a good eye and steady hands. It is a demanding art and this in part accounts for its popularity. Now when so much is done by turning a knob or switch, there is a great personal satisfaction to be gained from learning and using a skill which is so elemental.

Archers and archery have been a part of our myths, fables and literature since the introduction of the bow. Cock Robin, Cupid, Robin Hood and William Tell are familiar to all children. Archery terms have been used for descriptive purposes and to illustrate a point. Thus, we have such phrases as "straight as an arrow" and "He has two strings to his bow."

Every enthusiast of an art or skill enjoys not only performing that art or skill but also reading about it. He wants to read the history of it. He wants to read suggestions and advice on how to improve his own performance and he enjoys reading about other people who are doing this same art.

The collecting of books on a subject is a natural adjunct to performing and reading. The archer wants to have more than just his personal knowledge, he wants to have at his side the accumulated knowledge and history of all other archers. He wants to feel, through reading, that sense of his own part in the long and honorable history of the bow and arrow.

*Marcia Muth Miller*

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HOWARD BOBBS — A native of Pennsylvania has lived in New Mexico since 1939. In 1940, he opened an art gallery and studio in Santa Fe. He is the sixth generation of artists in his family and has achieved national prominence as a painter of the landscape and people of New Mexico. Archery itself as well as the history of archery has long been a hobby with Mr. Bobbs.

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# BOWS and ARROWS



## AN ARCHERY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Howard Bobbs and Marcia Muth

One of the earliest and most important inventions of fledgling mankind was that of the bow. The bow and arrow changed man's history because it increased his ability to survive in what was often a hostile environment. Whether for good or evil, the bow and arrow became an integral part of expanding civilization until it was replaced by gunpowder. Today, archery is practiced both as a sport in itself and for hunting purposes.

Archery is a skill. It can be taught. But it must be practiced and it requires a good eye and steady hands. Every enthusiast of an art or skill enjoys not only performing that art or skill but also reading about it. The collecting of books on a subject is a natural adjunct to performing and reading. The archer wants to have more than just his personal knowledge. He wants to have at his side the accumulated knowledge and history of all other archers. This small bibliography will help in that endeavor.

Howard Bobbs achieved national prominence as a painter of landscapes and people of New Mexico. Archery as well as the history of archery was a hobby he enjoyed.



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